Lauren Pavone

Foundations of Writing

Dr. Sherry

12/2/13

**Past**

The day I received my black belt was one of my major goals I was able to check off. Becoming a black belt meant that I would receive respect from the lower belts and could be someone the younger children could look up to. Since I earned my black belt when I was in the third grade and too young to start teaching, I had to wait until the sixth grade, which was when I was a second-degree black belt, to finally start leading the beginning of the class and also wrapping up the end of class.

The first time I was able to lead the class in running and stretches I wasn’t prepared. My master came out and told me to start because he had to talk to possible students. Even though I had been there for seven years and knew the warm up routine I wasn’t ready for people to actually listen and follow my commands, after seven years you’re used to listening to others, the table had finally turned for me. I told everyone to line up for running. They all responded with “Yes ma’am” which was already weird to me, of course my dad was the loudest because I was even higher than him in rank, I wasn’t used to him having to listen to me. I finished the running and had everyone line up for class to begin. My master was still not out so I had to have everyone begin. To start the class we have to bow in and the highest belt has to stand in front of the class, to lead them to bow in. I then led them in stretching and finally my master came out.

My dad and my master later told me that I had done a good job I would just have to speak up more. Being able to lead a class and having people listen and respect me. I have always known I wanted to pursue a career as a teacher and being able to lead a class, even if it was my karate class reassured me that I want to be in a classroom teaching and leading a class. Leading and eventually teaching at my karate gym was like getting the first stripe on my belt because it was the first step to know that I wanted to be a teacher.

**Present**

Coming to college and joining the Education LLC was also a way for me to know that I really want to pursue a career as a teacher. One moment in particular was when we went to a high school to talk to juniors and seniors about the living and learning communities that Bloomsburg has to offer.

When we went to the high school we had to set up the displays of all the different LLCs and then we moved into the auditorium for the presentation. Once the presentation was finished I was able to interact with students and talk to them about the education LLC and also other things that Bloomsburg has to offer. I was able to explain how being a part of the Education LLC helped me further in my education career by helping me realize that I do want to pursue a career in teaching. Along with other members I was able to answer questions from students. One high school student asked, “What trips do the members take?” I answered, “ The LLC takes multiple trips during the semester to many different cities with different LLC’s.”

Being able to talk to the high school students and answering their questions also reassured me about wanting to be a secondary education teacher. Deciding on my major and joining the education LLC was like getting my second stripe on my black belt because it is one step closer to my goal of being a teacher.

**Future**

Walking into my classroom for the first day and even for the first time I notice the large desk in the front of the room. Facing the desk and the board are rows of desks with students sitting preparing for their business class. In my future I see myself having my own classroom and teaching high school students about business. Eventually having my own classroom and students would be like getting the third stripe on my black belt. Getting the third and final stripe would mean that I finally met my goal of becoming a business teacher in the future.